Collaboration with private sector for better Municipal services in metro cities

4016. DR. VIJAY MALLYA : Will the Minister of URBAN DEVELOPMENT AND POVERTY ALLEVIATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government are aware that the State Government of Kamataka in collaboration with the private sector are planning to overhaul the functioning of the local bodies such as Bangalore Municipal Authority with to providing better Municipal services to improve the city's appeal as a global IT hub;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether there is a plan to improve the infrastructure facilities in the major metropolitan cities like Delhi, Mumbai, Kolkata and Chennai; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF URBAN DEVELOPMENT AND POVERTY ALLEVIATION (SHRI PON RADHAKRISHNAN): (a) and (b) As per Entry 5 of the State List Seventh Schedule of the Constitution, Municipality is a State subject. In view of this, it is for the State Govt. to look into the issue of involvement of private sector in the functioning of local bodies. In order to strengthen the functioning of Urban Local Bodies, Ministry of Urban Development & Poverty Alleviation have recently framed a draft Model Municipal Law, which *inter alia* seeks to involve private sector participation in delivery of municipal services.

(c) and (d) To improve the infrastructure facilities in mega cities including Mumbai, Kolkata and Chennai, a Centrally Sponsored Scheme namely "Infrastructure Development in Mega Cities" was initiated during 1993-94. The primary objective of the scheme was to undertake infrastructure development projects covering a wide range of components like water supply, sewerage, roads and bridges, city transport, solid waste management etc. As on 16.4.2003, a total number of 446 projects at the cost of Rs. 4907.44 crores have been approved. As regards Delhi, this Ministry has sanctioned Rs. 100 crores in October, 2002 to Municipal Corporation of Delhi for construction and strengthening of roads in Delhi.